

Ecology response amended for H/24/97251 4 HEATHLANDS ROAD, CHANDLER'S FORD, EASTLEIGH, SO53 1GW

Single storey side extension and partial demolition of detached double garage.

Dorothy Hei-Tung-Hoh

10/5/24

I have reviewed the site photos. The rear garden slopes down away from the house, and the garden is mostly amenity lawn. There are some plants and shrubs around the existing garage with raised beds on gravel behind the garage. I don't see any potential bat roost features on the house or the garage. No further surveys will be required.

Please could you add the following to the decision letter.

Vegetation affected by the proposal must be cleared outside of nesting bird season (which is usually March-August inclusive). If this is not possible, a suitably qualified ecologist must check for nesting birds no more than 24 hours before vegetation clearance.

If evidence of an active bird's nest is found during construction, a 5 m buffer must be erected around the nest to protect it from disturbance until after the chicks have fledged and left the nest.

In the unlikely event of any bats being found during demolition or construction, all work must stop immediately, and Natural England must be called. Additional information is available on the Bat Conservation Trust website at <https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/im-working-on-a-building-with-bats/ive-found-a-bat-during-works>.

A precautionary working method for small animals such as hedgehogs, toads, and stag beetles must be included in the CEMP.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

9/5/24

There is a stream on the western boundary of this property which flows into Monks Brook, a tributary of the River Itchen. It is in a green impact risk zone for great crested newts. There are records of bats on Heathlands Road, hedgehogs and stag beetles very near this site and records of common toads and nesting swifts in the wider area. This site is in a green impact risk zone for great crested newts.

To determine whether further surveys will be required I need to review close up photos taken in good light of any areas of the house, garage and garden which would be affected by the proposal. Close up photos are needed of any hanging tiles, the garage roof and interior, areas around the windows and doors and the side of the house where the extension would be attached.

A CEMP will be required, to include measures to avoid any pollution of the stream, including by sediment, during construction.

Biodiversity enhancements will be required in accord with Local Plan policy DM 11 and NPPF paragraph 180. A bat brick and a swift brick may be appropriate for this building.

The Bat Conservation Trust recommends installing a bat brick/box at least 4 m above the ground, away from artificial light sources, sheltered from strong winds and exposed to the sun for part of the day, facing south, south-east or south-west. ([https://www.bats.org.uk > our-work > putting-up-your-box](https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/putting-up-your-box))

Swift nest boxes are best positioned under the eaves or on walls facing north, northeast or north-west out of direct sunlight, five metres above the ground, with clear adjacent airspace so swifts can access them in a high-speed direct flight.
(<https://www.swiftconservation.org/Nestboxes%26Attraction.htm>)

Additional information is available at:

<https://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/discover/in-your-garden/article/31>, planting for bats

<https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-03/WAG16%20Bats%20updated%202022%20WEB.pdf> - Stars of the Night guide to attract bats into your garden

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/science/conservation-biodiversity/wildlife/plants-for-pollinators>

<https://www.bats.org.uk/our-work/buildings-planning-and-development/bat-boxes>

<https://www.hampshireswifts.co.uk/nesting>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/how-you-can-help-birds/nestboxes/nestboxes-for-small-birds/>

<https://www.swift-conservation.org/OurLeaflets.htm>

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/hedgehog-homes/>

www.bats.org.uk/resources/guidance-for-professionals/landscape-and-urban-design-for-bats-and-biodiversity

<https://ptes.org/my-garden/>

<https://www.ukbutterflies.co.uk/foodplants.php>

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